Page 1, after the Title, insert the following new paragraph. The present application is a 371 U.S. National Phase of PCT/GB99/01743, filed 3 June 1999, which designated the U.S. Page 27, amend line 26 as follows: -- Figures Brief Description of the Drawings--Page 27, delete the paragraph spanning lines 28-34 and insert the following therefor: √Fig 1A: Aligned amino acid sequences of SPASIC (SEQ ID NO:2) (protein of present invention), DRASIC (SEQ ID NO:12): (see Waldmann and Lazdunski 1998, Current Biology 8: 418-424); ASIC-alpha (SEQ ID NO:3) (also referred to as 'ASIC' - see also Waldmann and Lazdunski supra); ASIC-beta (SEQ ID NO:13) (GB 9718365.1 - unpublished at the filing date of the present application). Trans-membrane helices (TM1/TM2) are marked.-Page 27, line 35, add the following new paragraph: --Fig. 1D: continuation of Fig. 1A. Fig. 1C: continuation of Fig. 1B. Page 28, line 35 to page 29, line 6, insert the following new paragraphs: SEQ ID No 8: Primer for use with that of SEQ ID No 9 in degenerate PCR screening (corresponds to amino acid sequence RYG/AKEI/LSM - numbers 379-386 (SEQ ID NO: 10)).

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SEQ ID No 9: Primer for use with that of SEQ ID No 8 in PCR screening (corresponds, in reverse, to amino acid sequence GLFIGASI/L in the TM2 region of Figure 1 - numbers 438-445 (SEQ ID NO:11)).

Insert the attached Abstract before the Figures.

Insert the attached Sequence Listing, in place of the originally-filed copy of the Sequence Listing, after the Figures.